

CHARLES REDD CENTER FOR WESTERN STUDIES

BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

INTERVIEWEE: JAMES A. BULLOCK  
INTERVIEWER: Lyle W. Bingham  
DATE: November 28, 1978  
PLACE: Provo, Utah  
SUBJECT: Work for Utah Power and Light

LB: This is an interview with James A. Bullock for the Charles Redd Center for Western Studies Labor Oral History Project by Lyle W. Bingham on November 28, 1978.

Were you born here in Provo?

JB: Yes.

LB: Could you tell me something about your early life and how you went to Colorado?

JB: That is a long story. I went to BYU when I got through the grade school in Provo. I went to high school in the BYU and graduated from the high school. Then I spent four more years at the BYU. I taught school for one year at Orem, Utah. Then I went to Idaho and taught part of a year. I can't remember these dates. During the summer I worked either for my dad on the farm or I got a job.

I had a job at Olmstead in Provo Canyon. The flume had gone out and I carried water for a while. It took several days to get the water back in the flume. When it was repaired, I was given a job in the dining room at the Olstead. I washed dishes, but I was soon promoted to a waiter. So I waited on tables for the pinheads. The pinheads ran the boarding house.

I knew a fellow in Provo who was one of the top men in Nunn's organization. L. L. Nunn was the pioneer of the electrical industry. My friend said, "What are you going to do when you get through with this dishwashing job?" I said, "Darned if I know. Go to school I presume." He said, "How would you like to go out to Colorado as a pinhead?" I said, "Why?" He said, "The pinheads here get twenty